

28. (Amended) A device for collecting a sample for analysis, comprising:

53217  
a main body dimensioned to be manipulated by hand, the device having at least one dimension selected from the group consisting of a length of 15-100 mm, a width of 20-50 mm, a width of 5-20 mm and a thickness of 1-5 mm;

a suction pressure generator;

C2  
a drawing channel formed in the main body in communication with the suction pressure generator, an opening in the main body being formed at the end of said drawing channel distal with respect to said suction pressure generator; and

an analytical section formed in said drawing channel between the suction generator and the opening, the analytical section communicating directly with the exterior of the device through the drawing channel,

wherein in use a sample is drawn into the main body through the opening by suction pressure developed by said suction pressure generator, and then the sample is transferred by the suction pressure through the drawing channel into the analytical section.

C3

46. (New) A device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the length is 15 to 100 mm.

47. (New) A device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the width is 20 to 50 mm.

48. (New) A device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the width is 5 to 20 mm.

49. (New) A device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the thickness is 1 to 5 mm.

53217  
50. (New) A device for collecting a sample for analysis, comprising:

a main body dimensioned to be manipulated by hand;

a suction pressure generator comprising a chamber formed in the main body;

a drawing channel formed in the main body in communication with the chamber of the suction pressure generator, an opening in the main body being formed at the end of said drawing channel distal with respect to said suction pressure generator,

a flexible cover on the main body, whereby changes in pressure in the chamber of the suction pressure generator are created by movement of the flexible cover, and

an analytical section formed in said drawing channel between the suction generator and the opening, the analytical section communicating directly with the exterior of the device through the drawing channel,

wherein in use a sample is drawn into the main body through the opening by suction pressure developed by said suction pressure generator, and then the sample is transferred by the suction pressure through the drawing channel into the analytical section.

C3  
Cmtd.  
51. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, further comprising a bypass channel formed in the main body and branching from the drawing channel at a position between the analytical section and the opening and in communication with the suction pressure generator, wherein the relationship between a liquid flow resistance (X) in a first portion of the drawing channel between said analytical section and said suction pressure generator, a liquid flow resistance (Y) in the bypass channel and a liquid flow resistance (Z) in a second portion of the drawing channel between the position at which said bypass channel branches and said analytical section satisfies the inequality  $(X) > (Y) > (Z)$ .

52. (New) A device as claims in claim 50, wherein the drawing channel is divided into a plurality of drawing channel members at a position between the opening and the suction pressure generator, each of the drawing channel members being provided with an analytical section and being in communication with the suction pressure generator.

53. (New) A device as claimed in claim 51, wherein the drawing channel is divided into a plurality of drawing channel members at a position between the opening and the suction pressure generator, each of the drawing channel members being provided with an analytical section and being in communication with the suction pressure generator, the bypass channel branching from the drawing channel at a position between the division point and the opening.

54. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein a gas-permeable and liquid-impermeable stopper is provided in the drawing channel between the suction pressure generator and the analytical section.

55 (New) A device as claimed in claim 54, wherein the stopper is made from a hydrophobic porous material.

56 (New) A device as claimed in claim 50 wherein the overall length of the device is 15 to 100 mm.

57. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein the width of the device is 20 to 50 mm.

58. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein the width of the device is 5 to 20 mm.

59. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein the overall thickness of the device is 1 to 5 mm.

60. (New) A device as claimed in claim 54 wherein the drawing channel is divided into a plurality of drawing channel members at a position between the opening and the suction pressure generator.

61. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein the device is designed to be discarded after a single use.

62. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, further comprising a bypass channel formed in the main body and branching from the drawing channel at a position between the analytical section and the opening and in communication with the suction pressure generator.

63. (New) A device as claimed in claim 62, wherein a liquid flow resistance in a first portion of the drawing channel between said analytical section and said suction pressure generator is greater than a liquid flow resistance in the bypass channel and a liquid flow resistance in a second portion of the drawing channel between said analytical section and a position at which said bypass channel branches.

64. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein a positive pressure can be generated to return a sample withdrawn from the analytical section to the analytical section.

C3  
contd.  
65. (New) A device as claimed in claim 54, wherein a plurality of analytical sections are formed in the drawing channel, and the stopper is provided in the drawing channel between said suction pressure generator and the analytical section closest to the suction pressure generator.

66. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein the opening has a shape enlarging toward the end.

SUB 17  
67. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein a liquid pooling portion is formed between the opening and the drawing channel, and an air vent passage branches from a portion of the drawing channel between the liquid pooling portion and the analytical section, the end of the air vent passage opening to the outside.

68. (New) A device as claimed in claim 67, wherein the liquid flow resistance in the air vent passage is larger than the liquid flow resistance in the liquid pooling portion.

69. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein the analytical section formed in the drawing channel serves as a reagent positioning section and a reagent reaction section.

70. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein a reagent positioning section, a reagent reaction section and an analytical section are provided independently in certain positions in the drawing channel.

C3  
contd  
Sub 17

71. (New) A device as claimed in claim 70, wherein a plurality of reagent positioning section are provided in certain positions in the drawing channel.

72. (New) A device as claimed in claim 50, wherein a pair of electrodes comprising a working electrode and a counter electrode is provided in at least one analytical section.

---